Ministry of Energy and Mines and
Minister Responsible for Housing

2010/11
Annual Service Plan Report

BRITISH
COLUMBIA

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Message from the Minister and Accountability Statement

It is an exciting time in British Columbia, with a new Premier and a renewed sense of purpose for government. With an open and accessible approach, we are ensuring the priorities we set meet the needs of British Columbia's families. Our energy advantages are building a strong economy and creating a clean, safe and secure future for all of us.

We are taking steps to ensure BC Hydro rates remain among the lowest in North America, while making necessary investments in our heritage hydro infrastructure. These investments, along with competitive power procurement from clean and renewable sources and an expanded commitment to energy efficiency and conservation, will help meet growing demand, improve reliability, and make B.C. self-sufficient in electricity by 2016.

Through the Clean Energy Act, we are establishing a sustainable clean energy economy that enhances economic prosperity and supports our climate change goals. By developing export markets for our electricity, we will attract more investment and create more jobs in rural communities. Good jobs are the foundation of strong families and the Province is committed to creating employment across B.C.

In partnership with Alberta and Saskatchewan, we are also working to develop new overseas markets for B.C.'s natural gas. As the cleanest burning fossil fuel, natural gas is an affordable alternative to other carbon intensive technologies and B.C. has an abundant supply to maintain long-term production and meet new demands. Revenues from the sector, including $817 million in petroleum and natural rights sales in 2010/11, continue to sustain important government programs and services like health care and education.

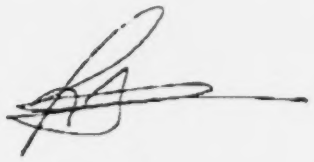
British Columbia's mining sector is growing. With more than half of Canada's mining companies based in B.C., mineral exploration activity reached $322 million last year - the third-highest total in the past 20 years and a 109 per cent increase over 2009. With commodity prices predicted to remain robust and demand for steel-making coal, copper, gold and other minerals high, we look forward to a bright future for our mineral industry.

Housing Matters BC, the Province's comprehensive housing strategy, has helped us improve the lives of British Columbians by providing safe, affordable housing options across the province – from supportive housing for those who are homeless to affordable rentals for individuals, seniors and families with lower incomes. More than 93,000 B.C. residents benefit from provincial housing programs and our strong partnerships with local governments and community organizations continue to increase available housing options across the province.

The Office of Housing and Construction Standards oversees responsibilities for a number of housing issues, including efforts to keep British Columbians informed about tenancy rights and responsibilities, and providing formal and informal dispute resolution services. With more than half a million strata owners in B.C., we are working to improve regulations governing strata

corporations. We are continuing to explore opportunities to modernize the building regulatory system and establish a uniform building code which will encourage technical innovation and housing affordability. Technical reviews are underway in preparation for the next edition of the BC Building and Fire Codes.

The Ministry of Energy and Mines and Minister responsible for Housing's *2010 11 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the actual results to the expected results identified in the Ministry's *2010 11 - 2012 13 Service Plan.* I am accountable for those results as reported.



Honourable Rich Coleman
Minister of Energy and Mines and Minister Responsible for Housing

June 21, 2011

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Highlights of the Year

British Columbia's new *Clean Energy Act* was introduced and brought into effect June 3, 2010, setting the foundation for British Columbia to become a clean energy powerhouse. The Act strengthens British Columbia's legislated goal of electricity self-sufficiency by 2016 with a new regulatory framework for long-term electricity planning, bold commitments to clean and renewable electricity generation, and new measures to promote electricity efficiency and conservation. It also strengthens protection for British Columbia ratepayers with new measures to promote competitive rates and to ensure that all of the benefits from the province's heritage assets continue to flow to British Columbians. In addition, the Act creates a First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund to provide the opportunity for First Nations to create investment and jobs in the clean energy sector.

The Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund accelerates the development of new energy technologies that have the potential to solve real, everyday energy and environmental issues and create significant socio-economic benefits for British Columbians. Since 2008, 41 projects have been approved for $60 million in ICE Fund contributions. Projects are located in 37 communities throughout B.C. with a combined total project value of $234 million. The Ministry administers 24 ongoing projects of which four commenced and eight were completed during the fiscal year.

Between 2005 and 2010 the Ministry of Energy and Mines worked collaboratively with the Geological Survey of Canada and Geoscience BC conducting Nechako Initiative projects such as passive seismic studies, petroleum systems analysis and mapping aimed at improving understanding of oil and gas resource potential. A comprehensive volume describing the results of this work in the Nechako region will be released by the Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences in the summer of 2011.

Rural residents and farmers in Northeast British Columbia have had a long-standing request for a landowner or farmers' advocate to assist them in land access discussions with the oil and gas industry. In January 2010 the Ministry entered into a contract with the Peace River Regional District to co-fund the Farmers Advocate Office for an initial eighteen month contract period. The office opened October 1, 2010 in Dawson Creek.

The New West Partnership Trade Agreement was signed by British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan on April 30, 2010. An Energy Memorandum of Understanding to formalize collaboration that will strengthen and expand the region's energy sector was signed by the three provinces on December 16, 2010. The Provinces committed to achieve three short term deliverables known as "quick wins" within 90 days. British Columbia leads the Collaboration and Information Sharing initiative that includes development of a SharePoint site, a knowledge sharing framework and a list of collaborative projects for future work.

The 2010/2011 total of almost $818 million generated from the monthly Crown auction of subsurface petroleum and natural gas rights made it the fourth highest fiscal year total in B.C. history. The 2010/2011 fiscal year average price per hectare of $2,173 is the third best ever.

The Province committed to share mineral tax revenues from new mine developments and incremental revenues for mine expansions with First Nations, in October 2008 and April 2009 respectively. In August 2010, two revenue-sharing agreements were signed: one agreement with the McLeod Lake Indian Band for the Mt Milligan mine and the other with the Stk'emlupscemc of the Secwepemc Nation for the New Afton mine. Revenue-sharing discussions have been initiated for expansions at Highland Valley Copper and Endako mines, and negotiations are underway with respect to the Elk Valley coal mines and Copper Mountain.

Three mine developments moved into the construction stage in 2010. The Copper Mountain Mine near Princeton is scheduled to open during the summer of 2011. It is expected to employ 270 people over an 18-year mine life and with a capital cost of $438 million. The New Afton Mine near Kamloops is scheduled to open in 2012. It is expected to employ 250 people over a 12-year mine life and with a capital cost of $630 million. The Mt. Milligan Mine north of Prince George is scheduled to open in 2013. It is expected to employ 400 employees over a 22-year mine life and with a capital cost of $1.265 billion.

In November 2010, a ministry representative participated in a trade and investment mission, led by the British Columbia Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, to Japan, South Korea and China. This annual mission, in its fifth year, targets the Asia-Pacific region as a key source of investment for the mining and mineral exploration sector in British Columbia. The initiative has been recognized as a success by participating companies, the Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia, the Mining Association of British Columbia, Geoscience BC and Chinese agencies and companies. The Ministry has played a key role in attracting more than $4 billion in investment in British Columbia mineral industry companies. Six exploration companies, based in B.C. or with projects in B.C., and two service companies participated as part of the B.C. delegation in 2010.

The Ministry continued to play a leading role in the creation of a thriving and sustainable mining industry in British Columbia by providing world-class geoscience expertise and data to government, industry, and the general public. These diverse groups use our expertise and data in different ways, but an underlying interest of all groups is to see the province position itself as a favoured destination for investment by the mineral exploration and mining industry. Standardized high quality geological maps, geoscience reports, industry reports and online interactive geoscience databases are made available online via MapPlace, the award-winning internet portal. Field programs were delivered in the North Coast, Iskut River, Dease Lake and Rocky Mountain Trench areas in partnership with the Geological Survey of Canada and Geoscience BC.

In 2010/11, the Ministry worked together with the B.C. Safety Authority to establish a framework for alternative safety approaches through changes to the *Safety Standards Act* (Act)

and a new regulation that established two types of alternative safety approaches including new, comprehensive safety management plans. These plans, which will initially be available to bio-fuel boiler facilities, offer industry greater flexibility in how to achieve the safety objectives of the Act, as well as advance provincial objectives for bio-energy. At the same time, the availability of alternative safety approaches eliminates regulatory barriers to investment in new and emerging technologies.

Significant work has been done through the Ministry on adapting the model 2010 National Building Code for adoption as the 2012 B.C. Building Code. An agreement was reached with the National Research Council regarding royalties for the use of the National Building Code, National Plumbing Code and National Fire Code as the base documents for the B.C. Building Code and B.C. Fire Code. An important aspect of the Ministry's focus in 2010/2011 was on developing energy efficiency requirements that meet economic, environmental and social concerns, for the new edition of the B.C. Building Code. These requirements will meet the goals of the government's 2007 Energy Efficient Building Strategy, increasing energy efficiency of housing equivalent to EnerGuide 80. Work will continue in 2011/2012 on completing the adaptation of the National Codes for use in B.C. culminating in a Minister's Order and publication in the spring of 2012 with an effective date in the fall of 2012.

The Province engaged British Columbians in major consultations and projects designed to stimulate housing options and to provide information about a broad range of housing issues. In September 2010, government hosted a day-long symposium and workshop for elected local government officials on making home ownership more affordable as part of the Union of BC Municipalities convention. This was followed by a similar session in collaboration with developers and home builders in November. In December a new Aboriginal Off-reserve Housing Tool was launched on the Housing and Construction Standard's website. The tool is a comprehensive resource intended to serve Aboriginal individuals and families by providing consistent, standardized information about housing in British Columbia, supporting the 2008 Tripartite First Nations Housing Memorandum of Understanding. A public consultation survey provided strata owners and residents with an opportunity to shape new regulations that will improve accountability within strata corporations

The Ministry provides landlords and tenants with information on their rights and responsibilities under the *Residential Tenancy Act*, and the *Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act*. The Ministry also assists landlords and tenants to resolve concerns, providing both formal and informal dispute resolution services. Clients contacted the Ministry more than 284,000 times in 2010/11 by telephone, e-mail or in-person at one of its three offices. In the same period, the number of website visits grew to 1.4 million, a 16 per cent increase over the previous year. The increasing reliance on computer-based communications was echoed in a 20 per cent increase in email inquiries, while phone inquiries rose by three per cent. In 2010/11, the Ministry processed approximately 22,000 applications for dispute resolution.

BC Housing substantially increased and rehabilitated the social housing stock in the province during 2010/11, while continuing to reduce greenhouse emissions. Details include: 1,812 new

units/beds were created in priority areas to increase housing options through existing funding programs, such as Independent Living BC, Provincial Homelessness Initiative, Community Partnership Initiatives, Aboriginal Housing Initiative and Memoranda of Understanding negotiated with local governments. 1,138 existing units were adapted, converted or re-targeted to ensure those most in need received priority for housing assistance. These units help individuals assisted through BC Housing's Health Services Program, Priority Placement Program, and the Seniors' Supportive Housing program as well as other partnership initiatives. Greenhouse gas emissions were reduced by 19 per cent from 2005 levels in our directly-managed buildings.

A number of activities were undertaken by the Minister of State for Mining in 2010/ 11, as much of the work of the Minister's Council on Mineral Exploration and Mining was carried forward. For example, the B.C. Mining Flow-Through Share Tax program was extended in the 2010 budget through to December 2013, and the Fraser Valley Regional District is developing a new zoning model for aggregate as recommended by the Fraser Valley Regional District Aggregate Pilot Project Committee.

2010/11 was also a busy year for the Minister of State for Building Code Renewal. The Ministry developed a project plan in December 2010 for "Built Environment Tomorrow", a project to consider how the entire system of living, building and regulating in the built environment can be better aligned to achieve larger societal outcomes. The first phase focuses on areas where there are multiple layers of government regulation and propose ways to streamline and rationalize the regulatory environment.

Building on the success of the greening of the British Columbia Building Code, on November 9, 2010, the Minister of State met with a group of 35 building industry representatives to solicit input on the greening of the BC Building Code, including steps that would lead to energy and water efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

Purpose of Ministry

The Ministry of Energy and Mines manages the responsible exploration and development of British Columbia's energy and mining sectors, which are comprised of public and private interests involved in the development and use of electricity, clean or renewable energy (biomass, biogas, geothermal heat, hydro, solar, ocean, wind or any other prescribed alternative energy resource), petroleum and natural gas, minerals, and renewable and low carbon fuels. Through the promotion of teamwork and positive working relationships with our clients, we facilitate thriving, safe, environmentally responsible and competitive energy and mining sectors. It is through these initiatives that the Ministry will continue to contribute to the economic growth and development of communities throughout British Columbia.

The Ministry develops and implements British Columbia's policies with regard to electrical power generation and transmission. The Ministry is responsible for initiatives that promote new energy technologies, energy efficiency and conservation and alternative energy resources. The *Clean Energy Act* sets the foundation for a new future of electricity self-sufficiency, job creation and reduced greenhouse gas emissions, powered by unprecedented investments in clean, renewable energy across the province. This Act builds upon British Columbia's unique wealth of clean, renewable energy resources. Through the Innovative Clean Energy Fund, the Ministry is helping to invest in new technologies to respond to British Columbia's energy and environmental challenges.

Another important part of the Ministry's mandate is to develop tenure, royalty and regulatory policy for British Columbia's petroleum and natural gas industry, thereby ensuring the effective and environmentally responsible management of the Province's petroleum and natural gas resources. The Ministry provides a range of petroleum and natural gas related services including the issuance of Crown petroleum and natural gas rights, royalty programs, public geoscience and policies to address potential future resource opportunities, such as unconventional petroleum and natural gas. The Ministry also develops policy and manages tenures in relation to development of the provinces geothermal resources.

Working with all stakeholders, the Ministry develops policies, programs and legislation to promote industry competitiveness and encourage investment in, and development of, mining. The Ministry develops and delivers geoscience databases and surveys and provides funding to other organizations to collect and publish geoscience information. The Ministry is responsible for permitting and inspections of major mining projects, promotes mineral exploration and provides assistance and advice to prospectors and exploration companies.

As the Minister is responsible for housing, the Ministry's portfolio includes provincial housing and homeless policy, residential tenancy information and dispute resolution, strata property

regulation, building and technical safety policy and standards development, and housing services delivered through the British Columbia Housing Management Commission[1].

In developing energy and mining sector policies, legislation and guidelines, the Ministry consults with its clients in the petroleum and natural gas, electricity, alternative energy, mining, mineral exploration, energy technology and energy conservation industries, as well as First Nations, communities and environmental and industry organizations.

With regard to housing issues, the Ministry's stakeholders are the citizens of British Columbia and their representatives at all levels of government, community groups, non-profit societies, schools, service organizations, businesses and industry associations. Key to the Ministry's success is its ability to maintain strong, collaborative relationships with stakeholders, partner agencies and other levels of government.

The Ministry conducts its business in a manner that upholds government's values as identified in the *Province of British Columbia Strategic Plan*, and continues to focus on the priorities that will ensure the Ministry' success in meeting its goals.

The Ministry is responsible for administering all or parts of 39 statutes pertaining to the energy, mining and housing sectors, and has policy responsibilities under the *Utilities Commission Act*.

The Ministry is responsible for the following four Crown Corporations: the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro), the Columbia Power Corporation, the Oil and Gas Commission and the British Columbia Housing Management Commission (BC Housing).

FUNDING TO EXPAND SOLAR PROJECTS IN B.C. COMMUNITIES

WHISTLER – On September 30, 2010, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources announced funding totalling $80,000 will allow 15 communities and one First Nation to develop and expand innovative solar power programs, making healthier communities for families across B.C.

The funding for B.C.'s newest Solar Communities will enable them to further develop solar hot-water programs and other solar projects in an effort to promote clean energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote sustainable communities.

The communities and First Nations selected included: Ashcroft, Alert Bay, Castlegar, Colwood, Duncan, Esquimalt, Kimberley, Ladysmith, the Lasqueti Local Trust Committee, the Village of Midway, Peachland, Quesnel, the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee, the District of Sechelt, Surrey, and the Cowichan Tribes.

These communities were chosen through an RFP process, and each will receive $5,000.

[1] On March 14, 2011, responsibility for all program areas related to housing was transferred to the Ministry from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Strategic Context

British Columbia's real GDP increased by 4.0 per cent in 2010, following a decline of 1.8 per cent in 2009. Indicators of economic performance in 2010 show that B.C.'s economy is recovering from the period of severe weakness it experienced in late 2008 and early 2009. Improvements in the domestic economy were observed in employment, consumer spending and housing, while external gains were made in exports and shipments of manufactured goods. However, several risks to B.C.'s economy remain, including ongoing weakness in the US, the European sovereign debt crisis, continued strength in the Canadian dollar, and geopolitical uncertainty and its impact on global commodity markets.

2010 was a challenging year for natural gas development in North America. Natural gas prices were affected by both lower demand due to the slow economic recovery from the 2008/2009 recession, and excess supply due to the emergence of shale gas resources in the United States and, more recently, in Canada. However, industry continued to demonstrate long-term confidence in natural gas development in B.C. as the value of petroleum and natural gas rights sales in 2010 was the fourth highest on record. The Ministry continued to monitor B.C.'s competitive position for investment and to develop measures to stimulate exploration and development of the abundant unconventional natural gas resources in northeast B.C.

In 2010, B.C. total mineral production was valued at $7.1 billion, and total exploration expenditures more than doubled from the previous year to over $322 million, accounting for an estimated 13 per cent of the Canadian total. Over 200 companies have indicated their intention to explore in B.C. during 2011. Prices for all seven of B.C.'s key mineral commodities have fully rebounded from the financial crisis of 2008/09. As of March 2011, all prices had increased significantly over the previous two years, with increases ranging from 65 per cent for gold to 217 per cent for silver.

The year was characterized by continued low electricity market prices. Market prices declined from 2009/2010 levels due to continued low natural gas prices and electricity demand throughout the Western Interconnection region, of which British Columbia is a part. While prices are expected to increase as demand recovers, the Ministry expects prices for electricity to stabilize at lower levels than prior to the economic downturn due to reduced forward natural gas prices. The Mid-Columbia Electricity Market price is correlated to the market price for natural gas because it is the incremental fuel source of choice for new electric generation in the Western Interconnection. Other Western Interconnection jurisdictions continued to develop policies to encourage the development of clean, renewable electricity sources in response to environmental and climate policy.

Building construction plays an important role in the B.C. economy providing well paying jobs for families and buildings that are healthy and safe for British Columbians. The sector represents seven per cent of B.C.'s total GDP. Inconsistent application and administration of the B.C. Building Code creates uncertainty for builders and developers, slows innovation and the ability

to take advantage of new building technologies. This increases costs and negatively impacts housing affordability. The Office of Housing and Construction Standards is continuing to develop options for building code renewal, focusing on consistent administration, interpretation and application of the Building Code, leading to a modern building regulatory system.

The 8.8 magnitude earthquake in Chile in 2010 along with large earthquakes in Christchurch, New Zealand and Fukushima, Japan early in 2011 have focused attention on the implications of similar events in B.C. and on the adequacy of our buildings. The BC Building Code includes seismic design requirements for buildings to protect life safety and the Code evolves as new information and research is validated.

The housing needs of the vast majority of British Columbians are served through the private market. However, local governments are increasingly innovative and involved in affordable housing, looking for greater diversity in housing type and form. The Ministry is working with local government and other key stakeholders to develop initiatives to increase the supply of small, low-cost housing. In addition, with approximately one million British Columbians now living in strata title properties, and continued development of new stratas, the need to ensure effective regulation is increasingly essential. Rising construction costs and reduced affordability of housing have focused attention on the need to reduce the regulatory burden. A smarter regulatory system allows for a reduction in process and administration while meeting the public's expectations for safe and healthy buildings.

The health of the province's economy has a direct impact on residential tenancies. The formula for increasing rents for existing tenants is set at inflation plus two per cent, with the July all-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for B.C. used as the inflation factor. Although the index includes housing costs, the overall basket includes factors in addition to the ones directly connected to residential tenancies. In 2010/11, property taxes and heating costs rose more sharply than the overall inflation rate, putting pressure on landlords. Over the same period, tenants also experienced inflationary pressures in their overall household expenses. Since more than half of tenants pay utility costs in addition to rent, they too feel the impact of these rising costs. The Residential Tenancy Branch continues to work closely with landlord and tenant organizations on these and other tenancy issues.

Report on Performance

The performance measures in the Ministry's 2010/11 Service Plan published in February 2010 were the substantially the same as those in the Ministry's 2009/10 Service Plan released in February 2009. These performance measures were carried forward from the Ministry's 2009/10 Service Plan in an effort to preserve the year on year stability of performance tracking and reporting. In the 2010/11 Service Plan, the targets for the measure: "Total energy savings achieved each year through utility and provincial conservation policies, programs, and regulations" were expressed in gigajoules rather than gigawatt hours to include both gas and electricity savings.

As the responsibility for Housing now rests with the Ministry, this annual report provides performance details for two measures from the former Ministry of Housing and Social Development. These measures are: "Percentage of homeless individuals accessing housing who remain housed six months after placement" and "Number of dispute resolution requests per 1000 of adult population in British Columbia".

In the Ministry's 2010/11 Service Plan, performance measure number six was: "Number of energy, mineral and petroleum resource related development projects where revenue sharing negotiations are active or complete with First Nations". As the negotiation of non-treaty agreements passed to the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation during 2010, the Ministry of Energy and Mines is not reporting on this performance measure. Please refer to the 2010/11 Annual Service Plan Report of the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation for a report on performance for this measure.

Talisman natural gas drilling rig near Fort Saint John, northeast B.C.

Performance Plan Summary Table

Goal 1 Thriving and competitive energy, mineral and petroleum resource sectors. For greater detail see pages x to x	**2010/11 Target**	**2010/11 Actual**
Annual Investment in Oil and Gas Exploration and Development	$6.3 Billion	$7 Billion (Estimate) EXCEEDED
Annual Investment in Electricity Facilities	$2.7 Billion	$2.5 Billion SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED
Annual Investment in Mineral Exploration and Mines	$0.680 Billion	$ 1.4 Billion EXCEEDED
Goal 2: Safe and environmentally responsible energy, mineral and petroleum resource development and use. For greater detail see pages x to x	**2009/10 Target**	**2010/11 Actual**
2.1 Operational practices at work sites that protect the public, workers' safety and the environment		
Short term injury rate at B.C. Mines	1.9 claims per 100 person years	1.8 (Estimate) ACHIEVED
2.2 Increased energy conservation and use of alternative, clean energy and efficient technologies.		
Total energy savings achieved each year through utility and provincial conservation policies, programs, and regulations	3,873,272 GJ	3,640,252 GJ SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED
Goal 4: An integrated system of housing and social development supports. For greater detail see pages x to x	**2009/10 Target**	**2010/11 Actual**
Objective 4.1: British Columbians have access to safe and stable housing.		
Percentage of homeless individuals accessing housing who remain housed six months after placement	85%	83% SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED
Number of dispute resolution requests per 1000 of adult population in British Columbia	6.77	6.1 EXCEEDED

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Results

Goal 1: Thriving and competitive energy, mineral and petroleum resource sectors

Objective 1.1: Increased investment, revenue generation and job creation in energy, mineral and petroleum resource development for the long-term benefit of all British Columbians

- Long term investment in the energy, mineral and natural gas resource sectors contributes to stability and predictability, allowing the industries to grow and prosper.
- Demand for energy, mineral and natural gas resources can be cyclical, affecting the price of these resources, and thus the level of investment in the sectors. Financial costs and currency fluctuations also impact investment levels.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Attract investment by continuing to work with industry to develop and implement focused marketing and investment programs to showcase British Columbia as a centre of excellence for energy, mining, and natural gas development.
- Further establish British Columbia as a recognized centre for innovation and technology research, education and demonstration, in collaboration with industry, post-secondary institutions, the federal government and provincial agency partners.
- Improve British Columbia's competitiveness in energy, mineral and natural gas development by providing leadership, information, investing in infrastructure, and developing new policies, regulations and programs to address the current economic environment.
- Continue to support the work of the Minister's Council on Mineral Exploration and Mining to identify key issues and opportunities facing the mineral exploration and mining industry in B.C.

Objective 1.2: An increasingly secure, reliable supply of energy for the long-term benefit of all British Columbians

- A secure and reliable supply of energy contributes to economic growth and stability for British Columbians.

- Energy supply is influenced by a number of factors outside the Province's control, including world economic growth cycles, regional and global demand and supply, international prices, interest rates, and exchange rates.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Work with BC Hydro and the BC Transmission Corporation to upgrade the Province's Heritage generation, transmission and distribution assets.
- Ensure self-sufficiency to meet electricity needs, including extra energy or "reliability insurance", through innovative, aggressive conservation, competitive power procurement programs, and BC Hydro's own projects.
- Diversify and reduce the carbon intensity of British Columbia's fuel supply, including the use of biofuels, the implementation of a low carbon fuel standard, and expanded natural gas use. Work with stakeholders and industry to promote the responsible exploration and development of undeveloped onshore basins and the unconventional natural gas resource.

Objective 1.3: Efficient and effective fiscal, legislative and regulatory frameworks and services that reflect the public interest, and enhanced social and economic benefits for all British Columbians

- An efficient and effective tax and policy framework for industry enhances competition and encourages the investment necessary to prosper.
- Competition with other jurisdictions for investment requires ongoing progress in regulatory reform, fee and licence reviews, and policy development.
- Maintaining the balance between the interests of local residents and resource developers is a shared objective of residents, regulators, provincial ministries and industry.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- In cooperation with other levels of government and the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office, continue regulatory review to ensure British Columbia remains competitive, while maintaining the integrity of environmental, health and safety standards.
- Identify the relative global positioning of B.C.'s exploration and mining sector compared with other significant mineral producing jurisdictions worldwide (countries, states, provinces, etc.).
- Develop and implement a faster and simplified approach to multi-agency approval for exploration and mining activities through FrontCounter BC.

- Expand and improve online service delivery by developing and implementing electronic payment and permitting options.
- Manage the oversight of the Columbia River Treaty to ensure the value of downstream benefits continues to be realized.
- Implement new regulations for renewable fuels and reduced carbon intensity of transportation fuels under the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements) Act*.
- Review the *Geothermal Resources Act* and regulations to ensure regulatory efficiency.
- Implement a new regulatory framework under the *Oil and Gas Activities Act* for industry, First Nations, government agencies and stakeholders, which will introduce a regulatory regime that fosters continued development of the natural gas resource, while ensuring effective protection for the environment, health and safety.
- Work with First Nations, communities, industry and other government agencies to understand the effects of resource development and how, through collaboration and progressive public policy, approaches can be developed and implemented to balance the interests and needs of local residents and resource developers.

Objective 1.4: Greater community awareness of the benefits of energy, mineral and petroleum resource opportunities

- Increased awareness of these benefits is one element that contributes to the social licence for industry to move forward. The energy and mining industries contribute significant revenues to the government which are used to fund public services such as healthcare and education.
- Limited time and resources are challenges to raising community awareness. The Ministry strives to reach into as many remote communities and First Nations as is feasible with limited resources.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Develop and implement focused promotional programs to inform British Columbians about opportunities in the energy, mining and natural gas industries.
- Provide information to, and foster engagement with, community stakeholders, industry and other government partners about the benefits of environmentally responsible resource development and opportunities for energy conservation.
- Increase provincial awareness of opportunities by working cooperatively with other ministries and partners to engage school students in a discussion of responsible energy, mineral and natural gas resource development.

- Pursue financial and cooperative renewable energy partnerships with industry, such as those with clean and renewable electricity producers, communities and other levels of government.
- Continue to implement the Energy Council working group with the First Nations Leadership Council to raise awareness and enhance understanding of energy and climate issues in First Nations' communities.

Performance Results

Performance Measure	2008/09 Actual	2009/10 Actual	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Actual
Annual Investment in Oil and Gas Exploration and Development[1]	$7.9Billion	$5.2 Billion	$6.3 Billion	$ 7 Billion (estimate) EXCEEDED
Annual Investment in Electricity Facilities[2]	$1.631 Billion	$2.8 Billion	$2.7 Billion	$ 2.5 Billion SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED
Annual Investment in Mineral Exploration and Mines[3]	$1.276 Billion	$0.70 Billion	$0.680 Billion	$ 1.4 Billion EXCEEDED

Data Sources:

[1] Source: Data analysis by Ministry of Energy and Mines based on Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers data for previous years. Estimates provided by calendar year.

[2] Source: Data analysis by Ministry of Energy and Mines and B.C. Public Utilities. Estimates provided by fiscal year.

[3] Source: Data analysis by the Ministry of Energy and Mines based on calendar year survey results from Natural Resources Canada, Statistics Canada and PriceWaterhouseCoopers

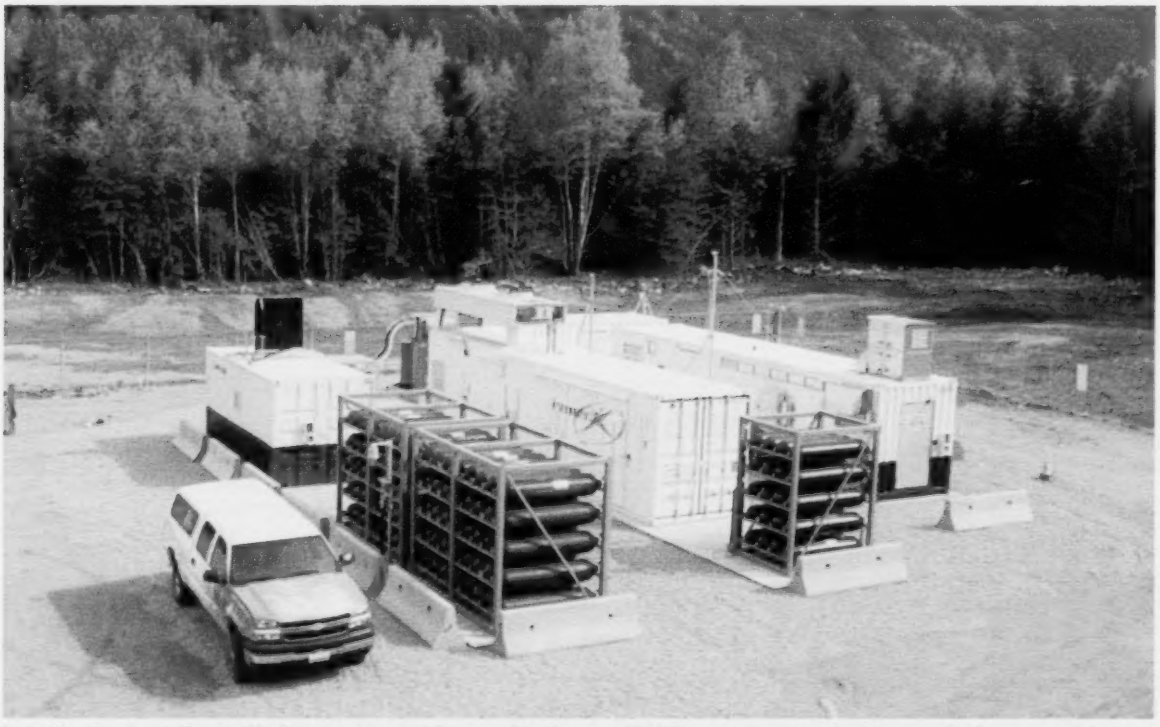
Discussion of Results

Annual investment in oil and gas exploration and development comprises industry investment in geophysical and geological surveys, exploratory and production wells, pipelines and processing plants owned by producers. Used domestically for heating and cooking purposes, natural gas also has a wide range of commercial and industrial uses. Increased investment is an indicator of increased production which expands the supply of gas to residential, commercial and industrial consumers. In addition, oil and gas activities provide jobs for British Columbians, build provincial infrastructure, and provide significant revenue to the Province which supports social programs such as education and healthcare. This measure has been used in past years and continues in the 2011/12 Ministry Service Plan, where it has been revised in name only to annual investment in petroleum and natural gas exploration and development. The target for 2010/11 is estimated to have been significantly exceeded.

Annual investment in electricity generation and transmission facilities tracks total investment in the electricity sector in British Columbia, including improvement and replacement to existing infrastructure by the major provincial electrical utilities — BC Hydro and Fortis BC — and Independent Power Producers which supply electricity to the utilities. Capital expenditures in the energy sector help ensure a safe and reliable electricity system to meet household, commercial and industrial needs. The electricity sector employs many British Columbians, and the dividends

from electricity Crown corporations, and tax, water rental and other revenues from all electricity market participants contribute to important social programs. The measure continues in the 2011/12 Ministry Service Plan. While BC Hydro's investment decreased relative to last fiscal year, this was partly due to investments scheduled for 2010/11 occurring ahead of schedule in 2009/2010. The target was substantially met.

Annual investment in mineral exploration and mines combines exploration expenditure and investment in new and existing mines. Annual mineral exploration expenditures provide jobs for British Columbians throughout the province. If commercially viable deposits are discovered, new mines may be opened, and exploration dollars are converted into operating mines, with more long-term employment opportunities created for rural communities. Capital investment in new or existing mines also provides jobs and builds provincial infrastructure. Mineral taxes and tenure fees and rentals provide revenue to the Crown. Annual investment in mineral exploration and mines is the combination of two measures used in the past and has been replaced by a measure of direct mining revenue to government in the 2011/12 Ministry Service Plan. The 2010/11 target was exceeded.



In Bella Coola, B.C., the Hydrogen-Assisted Renewable Power (HARP) project uses clean, green hydrogen and fuel cell technology to help power this remote community. Located approximately 400 kilometres north of Vancouver, Bella Coola is not connected to BC Hydro's provincial electricity grid.

Goal 2: Safe and environmentally responsible energy, mineral and petroleum resource development and use

Objective 2.1: Operational practices at work sites that protect the public, workers' safety and the environment

- Operations at mines, quarries, and gas or oil extraction or distribution sites can be hazardous, and can have an impact on the environment if not properly managed. Operational practices that safeguard the public, industry employees and the environment contribute to safe and environmentally responsible development and use of these resources.
- The threat of accidents, leakages and spills is always present, so ongoing policy development, inspections, education and training are necessary to ensure these are minimized.

Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include:

- In cooperation with industry, enhance collaboration to improve environmental and safety compliance through inspections and audits.
- Explore further opportunities to expand environmentally responsible energy, mineral and natural gas development, in partnership with industry, communities, First Nations, environmental groups, universities, colleges and other government organizations.
- Meet with mine managers to ensure mine health and safety standards and practices are applied consistently.
- Hold an annual mine rescue competition in collaboration with the Mining Association of British Columbia to recognize and improve emergency response capability.
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development support education and training initiatives for the enhancement of a skilled mineral exploration and mining workforce, such as the Canada-B.C. Labour Market Agreement to support the creation of a productive, mobile and inclusive workforce.

Performance Results

Performance Measure	2008/09 Actual	2009/10 Actual	2010/11 Target[1]	2010/11 Estimate
Short term injury rate at B.C. Mines	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.8 (estimate) ACHIEVED

Data Source: Ministry of Energy and Mines staff analysis of WorkSafeBC data for previous years. The forecast and targets are calculated by dividing the number of accident claims (as reported by WorkSafeBC) by 100 person years to result in the rate of short term injury per year. A person year is the amount of time an employee works in one year — using 2,000 hours as the average number of hours. Forecasts and targets are expressed by calendar year and are based on the calculation of a 10 year rolling average. The use of a 10 year rolling average smoothes out statistical anomalies caused by significant single events. The measure captures open pit coal and metal mines, quarries and underground mines. As a result, the measure and targets are an accurate representation of the accident rate for the sector.

Discussion of Results

The target reflects the anticipated average number of accident claims per year at B.C. mines, including open pit coal mines, open pit metal mines and underground mines, per 100 person years. As new mines open in the province, the mining workforce will be larger and have a greater percentage of workers who are new to mining operations. Enhanced health and safety training and inspections will be required to maintain mining as one of B.C.'s safest heavy industries. The measure continues in the 2011/12 Ministry Service Plan. Preliminary estimates indicate that the short-term injury rate target of 1.8 for 2010/11 was achieved, but the actual statistics from WorkSafeBC will not be available until July 2011.

MINE RESCUE AWARDS SHOWCASE THE BEST IN B.C.

June 8, 2010: FERNIE – B.C.'s best mine rescue and first aid teams were honoured in Fernie after an intense day of competition. The 55th Annual Provincial Mine Rescue and First Aid Competition brought together provincial mine rescue and first aid teams for an all-day event. The competition was designed to simulate real-life situations and test skills in first aid, extrication, firefighting, rope work and general mine rescue knowledge. Trophies were awarded to the best three-person miner first aid team, as well as for excellence in surface and underground mine rescue.

The access to a proposed underground development of almost 20 kilometres at the New Afton, B.C., gold-copper project of New Gold Inc.

Objective 2.2: Increased energy conservation and use of alternative, clean energy and efficient technologies

- Retrofitting or constructing new energy efficient buildings, and promoting the deployment of alternative energy technology, contributes to environmentally responsible energy development and use. The Government plays a key role in providing information to the public about practical conservation initiatives, establishing new standards through the BC Building Code and *Energy Efficiency Act* and encouraging the private sector to develop alternative energy sources.
- The up-front expense of retrofitting existing homes and buildings to conserve energy, as well as the expense of material and equipment for energy efficient new buildings, will be fully recovered over time through lower energy bills.
- British Columbia has a number of alternative energy options such as solar, tidal, biomass, wave, geothermal and wind power. These sources of alternative energy are renewable and can complement existing electricity generating facilities and heating and transportation fuels.

Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Support energy utilities with the implementation of cost effective demand side management measures.
- Participate in and support long term green energy planning initiatives at the regional and provincial level, including the Western Renewable Energy Zones initiative, the B.C. Utilities Commission long term transmission review and the Green Energy Advisory Task Force.
- Work with the Climate Action Secretariat, other government ministries and agencies, Crown Corporations, communities, electricity producers and utilities across British Columbia to implement a coordinated and focused approach to energy conservation and efficiency measures and support deployment of alternative energy options to meet the province's energy needs.
- Continue to support energy efficiency in homes and buildings through: supporting the 40,000 British Columbians who have entered the LiveSmart BC: Energy Efficiency Program as they complete the retrofits of their homes; providing one-stop access to federal and utility programs; and working with utility partners on a future version of the LiveSmart Program.
- Implement the 2008 Energy Efficient Buildings Strategy: More Action, Less Energy which has among the most aggressive energy efficiency targets in Canada.
- Introduce a new, industrial energy efficiency program.

- Position the natural gas resource as an abundant, clean-burning alternative to diesel and other hydro-carbon fuels with fewer pollutants and carbon dioxide emissions.
- Ensure the procurement of clean and renewable electricity continues to account for at least 90 per cent of total generation.
- Continue to advance the development of a hydrogen economy by promoting the hydrogen fuel cell industry and other technology that supports alternative energy.
- Continue to implement the BC Bioenergy Strategy to take advantage of B.C.'s abundant sources of beetle-killed timber, wood wastes and agricultural residues.
- Encourage geothermal resource exploration and development by providing new tenuring opportunities.
- Improve energy efficiency in homes, buildings and industry by implementing new standards under the *Energy Efficiency Act* to increase the minimum performance levels for manufactured building components and equipment.

Performance Results

Performance Measure	2008/09 Actual	2009/10 Actual	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Actual
Total energy savings achieved each year through utility and provincial conservation policies, programs, and regulations [1]	N/A	3,805,448[1] GJ	3,873,272 GJ	3,640,252 GJ SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED

Data Sources: BC Hydro, Ministry of Energy and Mines Survey.

[1] Measured in Gigajoules to include both gas and electricity savings. Excludes savings from Terasen Gas.

Discussion of Results

This measure is driven by policy actions one through nine of the BC Energy Plan. Targets represent energy savings from the LiveSmart BC: Efficiency Incentive Program, regulated standards under the *Energy Efficiency Act*, green building code changes, and BC Hydro's PowerSmart and Fortis BC's PowerSense demand side management programs and conservation/stepped rate participants. Both of these utilities design and direct their energy efficiency programs to three main market sectors — residential, commercial and industrial.

The performance measure for energy savings has been improved by including natural gas savings to the extent possible, rather than only the electricity savings reported in previous years. In order to add two different forms of energy savings, the measure is now in Gigajoules rather than Gigawatt hours. By reporting both natural gas and electricity savings, this measure provides a more complete indicator of the performance of the total energy demand side management effort by Government and utilities and their customers. Terasen Gas is commencing an expanded demand side management program, and its results will be incorporated into future reporting.

This measure was new for 2009/10, so no historical data are presented for 2008/09 in the performance table. The measure continues in the 2011/12 Ministry Service Plan. The target was substantially met.

Goal 3: The Ministry, communities, First Nations and industry working cooperatively for the responsible development and use of British Columbia's energy, mineral and petroleum resources

Objective 3.1: A strengthened commitment to environmental and social responsibility through increased, appropriate and timely engagement of communities, First Nations and stakeholders in resource development

- If First Nations, local governments, landowners and non-governmental organizations are informed and participate in responsible resource development, they will have an opportunity to help identify and contribute constructively to the resolution of issues and become more aware of the benefits that resource development can provide to a community, such as regular employment for citizens.
- Allocating sufficient time and resources to engage with communities and stakeholders to discuss resource development policies, regulations and opportunities is imperative. Communities' and stakeholders' time and resources are also limited. Communities and landowners require information to understand that resource extraction can take place in an environmentally friendly manner.

Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Foster working relationships between industry, local communities, First Nations and landowners by clarifying and simplifying resource development and management processes, enhancing dispute resolution methods, and offering more support and information.
- Facilitate and support collaboration on energy developments between industry and First Nations, and encourage and assist industry to engage First Nations early in development proposals.
- Examine tenure policies and legislation, and develop regulations to address areas of new opportunity.

- Work with First Nations, industry and communities to manage the development of the Horn River Basin shale gas play in a manner that establishes leading North American standards for unconventional gas resources.

Objective 3.2: Increased opportunity for First Nations to share in the benefits of responsible resource development and use

Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Work with First Nations on opportunities to participate in energy, mining and natural gas development.
- Facilitate and strengthen partnerships between First Nations, industry and government to fund skills, employment and business development opportunities.
- Negotiate revenue sharing agreements with First Nations on new mining projects.
- Facilitate involvement by local First Nations in oil and gas pipelines through the proposed Northern Energy Corridor between Kitimat and Prince George.

Objective 3.3: Enhanced public awareness of resource opportunities and the benefits of their responsible development and use

- Increased public awareness of the employment and business opportunities resulting from responsible resource development can enhance cooperation among industry, First Nations, communities and the Ministry.
- The Ministry seeks to reach all appropriate stakeholders and the broader public in key regions, while making the most efficient use of Ministry resources by implementing strategic information and engagement efforts.

Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Continue to collaborate with other ministries, agencies and Crown corporations to provide information and engage communities and First Nations in exploration and development of resources.
- Continue support for the annual Mining and Sustainability Award (implemented in 2006) to recognize the achievements of communities, industry, organizations and individuals.
- Continue to implement the Northeast Energy and Mines Advisory Committee and a public information strategy on energy and mining in northeast British Columbia, which is the province's major natural gas producing area, and the location of significant coal mining and mineral resources as well as wind power opportunities.

Goal 4: An integrated system of housing and social development supports.

Objective 4.1: British Columbians have access to safe and stable housing.

Strategies

Key strategies for this objective include:

- Provide policy and funding support for a continuum of social housing, including supportive housing for homeless individuals, and transition house and safe house services for women and children fleeing abuse.
- Provide policy and funding support for targeted rental assistance to increase access to private market rentals for low income seniors and working families, and homeless individuals.
- Develop new ways to encourage affordable and sustainable market housing.
- Provide an effective legislative governance framework for strata corporations.
- Assist landlords and tenants to resolve disputes earlier in the resolution process by increasing public education, working with partner agencies and organizations to expand the availability of consistent information regarding tenancies, and expanding the triage process and scheduling to ensure landlords' and tenants' enquiries and requests are addressed appropriately.

Performance Results

Performance Measure	2008/09 Baseline[1]	2009/10 Actual[2]	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Actual
Percentage of homeless individuals accessing housing who remain housed six months after placement	87%	89%	85%	83% SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED

Data Source: British Columbia Housing Management Commission

[1] Based on partial-year data given the measure's six month reporting time period and commencement of data collection by service providers as of April 1, 2008.

[2] The target for 2009/10 was based on preliminary research in other jurisdictions prior to the availability of baseline data, while future targets reflect actual results in British Columbia.

Discussion of Results

Tracking the percentage of individuals who access housing and remain housed six months after their placement allows the Ministry to assess how well it is meeting the goal of improving access to housing and support services for homeless British Columbians. Based on initial data collection, previously published targets have been increased to reflect services and strategies which are client driven and promote longer term housing stability. This measure takes into

account the number of homeless people that become housed in stable environments with appropriate supports in place, aimed at preventing them from returning to the street. Initial targets were based on preliminary research in other jurisdictions. The Ministry now has access to a full year of baseline data from British Columbia with which future targets were established. This performance measure was replaced in the Ministry's 2011/12 Revised Service Plan with a new measure tracking the percentage of clients belonging to priority groups in subsidized housing. This measure will continue to be monitored as part of the BC Housing Service Plan and Annual Report. The target was substantially met.

Performance Results

Performance Measure	2008/09 Baseline[1]	2009/10 Actual[2]	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Actual
Number of dispute resolution requests per 1,000 of adult population in British Columbia	7.04	5.8	6.77	6.1 EXCEEDED

Data Source: Ministry of Energy and Mines, Residential Tenancy Branch – Records of dispute resolution requests; BC Stats –Table 6, British Columbia Population by Age

Discussion of Results

The Ministry provides information about legislation and regulations as well as dispute resolution services to landlords and tenants. Increased accessibility to this information means landlords and tenants are developing more successful tenancies, and have sought formal dispute resolution less often over the past three years. This outcome is reflected in the performance measure.

The Ministry cannot determine the precise number of tenancies in the province, though it is estimated to be approximately one third of the adult population. Tying the number of dispute resolutions to adult population provides a comparable measure across fiscal years, as the number of tenancies increases with population increase. The Ministry influences the performance results by implementing the strategies listed above. The target was slightly exceeded.

Objective 4.2: Safety and environmental sustainability in the design, construction and occupancy of buildings.

Strategies

- Contribute to the Province's commitment to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by developing additional green provisions for the British Columbia Building Code to increase the water and energy efficiency of buildings.
- Consult and collaborate with industry, local government representatives, and the public to address climate change.
- Strengthen integrated partnerships with local government staff and officials, and industry members.

During the 2010 Winter Olympics at Whistler, B.C. Transit made history by establishing the largest fuelling station in the world and the largest revenue-service fleet of hydrogen fuel cell buses. The 20 hydrogen fuel cell buses make up 70 per cent of the local bus fleet in Whistler, B.C.

Report on Resources

	Estimated	Other Authorizations	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses ($000)					
Oil and Gas	10,321	0,000	10,321	7,399	(2,921)
Titles	3,965	0,000	3,965	4,434	469
Mining and Minerals	10,744	16,142	26,886	29,658	2,773
Electricity and Alternative Energy	22,219	2,706	24,925	24,925	0
Marketing, Aboriginal and Community Relations	3,811	(1,549)	2,262	1,407	(855)
Executive and Support Services	3,390	1,593	4,983	5,813	830
Contracts and Funding Arrangements	1	(1)	0	0	0
Innovative Clean Energy Fund	0	14,948	14,948	14,148	(800)
Housing	0	346,970	346,970	347,453	483
Housing Endowment Fund	0	10,000	10,000	3,092	(6,908)
Total	**54,451**	**390,809**	**445,260**	**438,329**	**(6,929)**
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) ($000)					
Oil and Gas	68,500	0,000	68,500	23,243	(45,257)
Titles	470	0,000	470	210	(260)
Electricity and Alternative Energy	35	0,000	35	31	(4)
Executive and Support Services	3	0,000	3	0	(3)
Total	**69,008**	**0,000**	**69,008**	**23,484**	**(45,524)**
Capital Plan ($000)					
Housing	208,380	0,000	208,380	135,804	(72,576)
Total	**208,380**	**0,000**	**208,380**	**135,804**	**(72,576)**
Other Financing Transactions ($000)					
Oil and Gas Commission Receipts	34,530	0,000	34,530	39,146	4,616
Oil and Gas Commission Disbursements	(34,530)	0,000	(34,530)	(39,146)	4,616
Total Net Cash Source (Requirements)	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**
Northwest Transmission Line Receipts	32,000	0,000	32,000	0,000	32,000
Northwest Transmission Line Disbursements	(32,000)	0,000	(32,000)	0,000	(32,000)
Total Net Cash Source (Requirements)	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**

Ministry Contact Information

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Kelowna:
#305 – 478 Bernard Ave, Kelowna BC V1Y 6N7

Hyperlinks to Additional Information

A list of Legislation administered by the Ministry can be found at:
www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Titles/legislation/Pages/default.aspx

A list of Crowns, Agencies, Boards and Commissions reporting to the Minister, can be found at:
www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Titles/legislation/Pages/Major_Agencies_Boards_and_Commissins.aspx

The BC Energy Plan can be found at: www.energyplan.gov.bc.ca/

The Green Energy Advisory Task Force report can be found at:
http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/EAED/Documents/GreenEnergyAdvisoryTaskForce.pdf

The Clean Energy Act and a complete set of backgrounders and factsheets are at:
www.mediaroom.gov.bc.ca/DisplayEventDetails.aspx?eventId=490

Housing Policy and Building and Safety Standards

Contact and other information about Housing Policy and Building and Safety Standards can be accessed at: www.housing.gov.bc.ca

For information about Aboriginal Housing Initiatives, visit the website at:
www.housing.gov.bc.ca/housing/AboriginalHousing

The Provincial Housing Strategy, Housing Matters BC, can be found at:
www.housingmattersbc.ca

Residential Tenancy

Contact and other information about Residential Tenancy can be accessed at:
www.rto.gov.bc.ca